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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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John Armstrong

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EXAMINER

PHILLIPS, HASSAN A

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/808,778	Applicant(s) ARMSTRONG ET AL.	
	Examiner HASSAN PHILLIPS	Art Unit 2451	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-21 and 24-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-21 and 24-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to communications filed January 13, 2009.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed January 13, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regards to the rejections of claims 1-8, 11-21, and 24-26, more specifically with regards to the rejection of claim 1, applicant argues (in summary) on pages 5 and 6 of the remarks that: "there is no teaching or suggestion in Spinks of a registration/query processor"; and, while Trossen describes a mobile terminal 18 registers with a proxy 14 on a company network and also sends a QUERY message to the proxy 14, "there is no teaching or suggestion however, that the same element within the mobile terminal both registers the device with the proxy and queries the proxy." Applicant further argues against the rejection of claim 1 on page 8 of the remarks. These arguments, however, appear to have been inadvertently entered, as they address previous amendments made to claims. Thus, the examiner will not address these remarks in this action.

With regards to the rejections of claims 1-8, 11-21, and 24-26, more specifically with regards to the rejection of claim 14, applicant argues (in summary) on pages 6-8 of the remarks that: "there is no teaching or suggestion anywhere in Spinks that the inventory module 166 queries the administration computer 84 for any type of information." "Accordingly, the present finding that Spinks teaches or suggests 'a query

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processor adapted to request information regarding the first network from a directory server' is incorrect."

The examiner respectfully disagrees with applicant's assertions.

3. With regards to applicant's remarks for claim 1, examiner submits the teachings of Spinks do suggest a registration/query processor. More specifically, Spinks discloses a processor (12) that utilizes both a module (i.e. 162) for registering a network device (i.e. 74) on a directory server (i.e. 84), and a module (i.e. 164, 166) for querying network infrastructure devices (i.e. 76) and local network devices (i.e. 90), (see Spinks, pg. 5, par. 0068, pg. 6, par.'s 0080, 0081, also see Fig.'s 2 and 7). Thus, regardless of whether Trossen suggests the same element within the mobile terminal both registers the device with the proxy and queries the proxy, applicant's claimed processor recited in claim 1 fails to distinguish from the processor disclosed by Spinks.

4. With regards to applicant's remarks for claim 14, examiner never indicated that the inventory module 166 queries the administration computer 84. As indicated above, and in the previous action, examiner submitted that the inventory module 166 queries network devices (i.e. 90) local to the network device (i.e. 74). Examiner further indicated in the previous action that the teachings of Trossen instead disclose a query processor (i.e. 30) adapted to request information regarding a first network from a directory server (i.e. 14), (see Trossen, pg. 3, par.'s 0028, 0029, also see Fig. 2). Examiner thus maintains the teachings of Spinks modified with the teachings of Trossen

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disclose applicant's claimed feature recited in claim 14. Examiner further maintains it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks with Trossen since, as was known in the art, this would have advantageously allowed for service discovery on the first network by the registration/query processor, (see Trossen, pg. 1, par. [0007]).

5. Accordingly the references supplied by the examiner in the previous office action covers the claimed limitations. The rejections are thus sustained. Applicant is requested to review the prior art of record for further consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11-16, 18-21, 24- 26, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spinks et al. (hereinafter Spinks), U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2001/0029534, in view of Trossen, U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0003058 (see IDS), and further in view of Hall et al. (hereinafter Hall), U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0133555.

8. In considering claim 1, Spinks discloses a network device (i.e. 74) coupled to a first network (30), (see Fig. 2), the network device comprising: information (100) identifying the network device on the first network, (pg. 5, par. [0068]); and a registration and query processor (i.e. 12) for providing the identifying information to a directory server (84) to register the network device on said directory server, (pg. 5, par. [0068], pg. 6, par.'s [0080], [0081], also see Fig.'s 2 and 7).

Spinks further discloses the directory server may provide directory services as were well known in the art at the time of the present invention, (pg. 4, par.'s [0057], [0058], also see pg. 5, par. [0068]).

Although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant's claimed invention, Spinks fails to expressly disclose: the registration and query processor transmitting query messages regarding the first network to said directory server.

Nevertheless, a processor transmitting query messages regarding a first network to a directory server was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. In analogous teachings, Trossen exemplifies this where Trossen teaches a processor (i.e. 30) transmitting query messages regarding a first network (i.e. company network) to a directory server (14), (pg. 3, par.'s [0028], [0029], also see Fig. 2).

Thus, given the teachings of Trossen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the registration and query processor transmitting query messages regarding the first network to said directory server. As was known in the art, this would have

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advantageously allowed for service discovery on the first network by the registration and query processor, (Trossen, pg. 1, par. [0007]).

Although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant's claimed invention, Spinks further fails to expressly disclose: wherein the network device is located inside a firewall, and the directory server is coupled to a third network and is located outside the firewall.

Nevertheless, a network device being located inside a firewall, and a directory server being coupled to a third network located outside the firewall, were well known features in the art at the time of the present invention. In analogous teachings, Hall exemplifies this where Hall teaches a network device (i.e. company device) being located inside a firewall, (pg. 3, par. [0031]); and, a directory server (108) coupled to a third network (i.e. a network external to the company network) located outside the firewall, (pg. 3, par. [0028]).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the network device is located inside a firewall, and the directory server is coupled to a third network and is located outside the firewall. As was known in the art this would have advantageously protected the network device by limiting access to the network device (Hall, pg. 3, par. [0031]), while further allowing for the directory server to be accessed publicly by other network devices outside the network of the network device without compromising the security of the network device, (Hall, pg. 3, par. [0028]).

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9. In considering claims 2 and 15, Spinks discloses the network device comprises one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera, (pg. 4, par.'s [0059], [0061]).

10. In considering claims 3 and 16, Spinks discloses the network device comprises a network printer (92) coupled to the first network and the directory server, (pg. 4, par. [0061], pg. 5, par. [0068], also see Fig. 2).

Although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant's claimed invention, Spinks fails to expressly disclose: the network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

Nevertheless, it was well known in the art that a network printer could comprise an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer. As was known in the art, a printer such as a laser printer for example, would provide fast, high quality print outs for a user of the printer. Using such a printer in the teachings of Spinks would have allowed for the specific type of printer to register identifying information on the directory server so the printer may be found, in case the physical location of the printer changes for example, (Spinks, pg. 2, par.'s [0016]- [0018]).

11. In considering claims 5 and 18, Spinks discloses the network device further comprises a network connection (26, 28) for coupling to the first network, (pg. 3, par. [0047]).

12. In considering claims 6 and 19, Spinks discloses “any network 30, 50 may be part of, and connect to the Internet 64”, (pg. 4, par. [0058]), and “a system 70 may be installed at a network site 72, which may be an office or building belonging to an organization or the like”, (pg. 4, par. [0059]).

Although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant’s claimed invention, Spinks fails to expressly disclose: the first network comprises a local area network.

Nevertheless, local area networks were well known in the art at the time of the present invention for connecting personal computers, printers and other devices inside buildings or on campuses for example.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the first network comprises a local area network. As was known in the art, this would have advantageously provided a network that was personal and/or specifically used for a company or organization. Using such a network in the teachings of Spinks would have provided a device registration process that would allow for a device in a local area network to be found, in case the physical location of the device changes for example, (Spinks, pg. 2, par.’s [0016]- [0018]).

13. In considering claims 7 and 20, Spinks discloses the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks (30, 50), (pg. 4, par. [0060]).

14. In considering claims 8 and 21, Spinks discloses the first network is coupled to a second network (64) that comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet, (pg. 4, par. [0058]).

15. In considering claims 11 and 24, Spinks discloses the identifying information comprises an address, (pg. 6, par. [0084]).

16. In considering claim 12, Spinks discloses the identifying information comprises an address of the network device on the first network, (pg. 6, par. [0084]).

17. In considering claims 13 and 26, Spinks discloses the first network is coupled to a second network (50) (pg. 4, par. [0060]), and the identifying information comprises an address of the first network on the second network, (pg. 6, par. [0084]).

18. In considering claim 14, Spinks discloses a network device (i.e. 74) coupled to a first network (30), (see Fig. 2), the network device comprising: information (100) identifying the network device on the first network, (pg. 5, par. [0068]); and a query processor (166) adapted to request information regarding the first network from devices local to the network device, (pg. 6, par. [0081]).

Spinks further discloses a directory server (54) providing directory services as were well known in the art at the time of the present invention, (pg. 4, par.'s [0057], [0058], also see pg. 5, par. [0068]).

Although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant's claimed invention, Spinks fails to expressly disclose: the query processor requesting the information regarding the first network from a directory server.

Nevertheless, a query processor requesting information regarding a first network from a directory server was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. In analogous teachings, Trossen exemplifies this where Trossen teaches a query processor (i.e. 30) transmitting query messages regarding a first network (i.e. company network) to a directory server (14), (pg. 3, par.'s [0028], [0029], also see Fig. 2).

Thus, given the teachings of Trossen, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the query processor requesting the information regarding the first network from a directory server. As was known in the art, this would have advantageously allowed for service discovery on the first network by the registration/query processor, (Trossen, pg. 1, par. [0007]).

Although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant's claimed invention, Spinks fails to expressly disclose: wherein the network device is located inside a firewall, and the directory server is coupled to a third network and is located outside the firewall.

Nevertheless, a network device being located inside a firewall, and a directory server being coupled to a third network located outside the firewall, were well known

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features in the art at the time of the present invention. In analogous teachings, Hall exemplifies this where Hall teaches a network device (i.e. company device) being located inside a firewall, (pg. 3, par. [0031]); and, a directory server (108) coupled to a third network (i.e. a network external to the company network) located outside the firewall, (pg. 3, par. [0028]).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the network device is located inside a firewall, and the directory server is coupled to a third network and is located outside the firewall. As was known in the art this would have advantageously protected the network device by limiting access to the network device (Hall, pg. 3, par. [0031]), while further allowing for the directory server to be accessed publicly by other network devices outside the network of the network device, without compromising the security of the network device, (Hall, pg. 3, par. [0028]).

19. In considering claim 25, Spinks discloses the information comprises an address of a second network device on the first network, (pg. 6, par.'s [0081], [0084]).

20. Claims 4, 17, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spinks in view of Trossen, in view of Hall and further in view of Tamura, U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0133678.

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21. In considering claims 4 and 17, although Spinks discloses substantial features of applicant's claimed invention, Spinks fails to expressly disclose: the network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

Nevertheless, Internet protocol telephones were well known in the art at the time of the present invention. In analogous teachings, Tamura exemplifies this where in a description of the prior art Tamura indicates networking trends have expanded to Internet protocol telephones among other devices, (pg. 1, par. [0005]).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Spinks to expressly disclose the network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone. This would have advantageously allowed for networking with more devices including the Internet protocol telephone, (Tamura, pg. 1, par. [0005]). This also would have allowed for finding the Internet protocol telephone, in case the physical location of the Internet protocol telephone changes for example, (Spinks, pg. 2, par.'s [0016]- [0018]).

Conclusion

22. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HASSAN PHILLIPS whose telephone number is (571)272-3940. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8am-5pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hassan Phillips/
Examiner, Art Unit 2451